

METHOD OF REDUCING METAL CONTENT IN FLUORINE-CONTAINING ELASTOMER

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This is a Divisional of Application No. 09/646,969 filed September 25, 2000, *now US Patent 6,703,461*
which is a 371 of PCT Application No. PCT/JP99/01517 filed March 24, 1999,
incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a process for preparing a fluorine-containing
10 elastomer having a reduced metal content, and further relates to the fluorine-containing
elastomer obtained by the process, a composition containing the fluorine-containing
elastomer and a molded article obtained from the composition.

BACKGROUND ART

Fluorine-containing resins (plastics) have been used in a large amount for
15 important parts such as chemical pipe, square tank and basket for silicon wafer which
have a direct influence on semiconductor products in the semiconductor production
process where strict requirements for cleanliness are demanded. Therefore reduction of
contents of metal components, TOC (total organic carbon) and particle impurity in the
fluorine-containing resins has been attempted positively.

20 Also with respect to fluorine-containing elastomers comprising mainly a
vinylidene fluoride (VdF) unit or tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) unit, as they are called
fluorine-containing rubbers, they are used in the field of rubber and treatments
employed in that field are applied thereto. Thus handling thereof including
vulcanization treatment differs largely from that in the field of fluorine-containing resin.